



The California Tribal Water Summit Planning Team

13396 Tollhouse Road
Clovis, CA 93619-9703

May 15, 2009

Honorable Tribal Leader:

Water is the sacred source of life. Yet in California our watersheds and fisheries continue to be degraded while water is being privatized and allocated to cities, suburbs, and farms at rates many times higher than what is available. Meanwhile, the state is in a drought and many local water agencies are implementing widespread water rationing. In many regions the land is subsiding while our aquifers are being over drafted, tainted, and starved of the water needed to replenish them. And everywhere climate change has begun altering rainfall patterns, increasing flood and fire risks, and raising sea levels.

We are in a time of unprecedented crisis, yet tribal water rights and practices continue to be dishonored and disregarded. **The time is long overdue for California's Native American Tribes to raise their voices, weigh in on the California Water Plan, and help shape California's water policy.**

The California Tribal Water Summit Planning Team, in partnership with the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), is convening a statewide **California Tribal Water Summit** later this year. The Tribal Water Summit Planning Team consists of over 30 tribal leaders and members and staff, as well as representatives from state agencies, and together we are designing and hosting the Summit. The theme of the Summit, given the current water crisis we are facing, is **"Protect Our Sacred Water."**

The Summit will provide an opportunity for the highest tribal and state government officials to explore common interests, discuss policy issues, identify solutions, and promote dialogue among agencies and programs responsible for water resources management in California. The first day will involve a series of caucus discussions for tribal leaders, members, and staff, and will focus on key statewide tribal water issues, such as tribal water rights and Native peoples' access to state water bond funding. The second day will focus on these same issues, but involve direct dialogue about state policy between tribal leaders and senior state officials. **A desired outcome is a "roadmap" with strategies for preserving Native water rights and providing for the sustainable management of California's sacred waters.** At least 300 participants are expected to attend each day.

The success of the California Tribal Water Summit 2009 depends on your help. Therefore, the Team is asking Tribal Governments to make a financial contribution to offset the costs of this very important Summit. With your support, the Planning Team will be able to provide small honoraria for speakers and presenters, and to provide travel and accommodation subsidies for those participants who need financial assistance to attend the Summit. Altogether, the direct costs of the Summit, honoraria, and subsidies amount to approximately \$120,000. Please note that DWR has expressed a commitment to covering around half of these costs.

Please make a donation to support this important effort to improve statewide water policy and ensure that the water access, use and priorities of Native peoples and nations are recognized and well preserved in California's strategic water planning efforts.

The Planning Team is partnering with the North Fork Mono Tribe, a 509(a) 2 Tribal non-profit organization to handle donations in support of the Summit. Additional information regarding the North Fork Mono Tribe's non-profit and instructions for making your donations are enclosed.

If you have any questions about making a donation, please contact Tribal Chairman Ron Goode, North Fork Mono Tribe, at (559) 355-1774 or eagleeye@cvip.net. If you have any questions about the Tribal Water Summit, please contact Barbara Cross, Government and Community Liaison, Office of the Director, California Department of Water Resources, at (916) 653-5150 or bcross@water.ca.gov.

With Respect,

The California Tribal Water Summit Planning Team
California Water Plan Update 2009

Enclosures

Donation Instructions:

1. Review the sponsorship level information below, and choose the level at which you would like to donate. (All donations are welcome!).
2. Fill out the very short form enclosed here.
3. Make checks payable to North Fork Mono Tribe.
4. Note on the check that it is for the Tribal Water Summit.
5. Send the form and the check to North Fork Mono Tribe's Treasurer at:
Joetta Fleak c/o
North Fork Mono Tribe
13396 Tollhouse Road
Clovis, CA 93619-9703

If you have any questions about making a donation please contact Tribal Chairman Ron Goode, North Fork Mono Tribe, at (559) 355-1774 or eagleeye@cvip.net.

If you have any questions about the Tribal Water Summit (e.g., activities, exhibits, volunteering), please contact Barbara Cross, Government and Community Liaison, California Department of Water Resources, at (916) 653-5150 or bcross@water.ca.gov. Information is also available at <http://www.waterplan.water.ca.gov/tribal2>

Sponsorship Levels:

While any donation to the Summit is greatly appreciated and will provide valuable support, the Planning Team recommends that sponsors choose to donate at one of the sponsorship levels described below.

Please indicate if you would like your donation applied to a specific Summit cost, such as a lunch, subsidies, honoraria, or materials. If applied to one of the events like a lunch or reception, special recognition of the sponsor will be made at that time.

Acorn Sponsor - \$1,000-\$4,999: As an Acorn-level Sponsor, your name and logo will be included in the program materials.

Salmon Sponsor - \$5,000-\$9,999: As a Salmon-level Sponsor, your name and logo will be included in the program materials and provide spaces for you to hang a banner in the conference facilities.

Eagle Sponsor - \$10,000-\$19,999: As an Eagle-level Sponsor, your name and logo will be included in the program material, provide spaces for you to hang banners in the conference facilities and provide a free booth for distribution of materials.

Mountain Sponsor - \$20,000 plus: As a Mountain-level Sponsor, your name and logo will be included in the program material, provide spaces for you to hang banners in the conference facilities, provide a free booth for distribution of materials, and special reserved VIP seating at the Summit events.



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CALIFORNIA TRIBAL WATER SUMMIT *Protect Our Sacred Water*

DONATION FORM

Name:

Affiliation:

Contact Information:

Telephone:

Address:

Email:

Sponsorship Level:

Donation Amount: \$

Specific requests for application of funding:

(For example, request to apply funding to a meal, or travel or accommodations subsidy, or speaker honorarium, etc. Note that the Team will make every effort to meet your request, but cannot guarantee final uses.)

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
P. O. BOX 2508
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date: SEP 17 2007

NORTH FORK MONO TRIBE
13396 TOLLHOUSE RD
CLOVIS, CA 93611-9703

Employer Identification Number:
02-0588416

DLN:

17053237730057

Contact Person:

SHAWNDEA KREBS

ID# 31072

Contact Telephone Number:

(877) 829-5500

Public Charity Status:

509(a) (2)

Dear Applicant:

Our letter dated April 2003, stated you would be exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and you would be treated as a public charity, rather than as a private foundation, during an advance ruling period.

Based on the information you submitted, you are classified as a public charity under the Code section listed in the heading of this letter. Since your exempt status was not under consideration, you continue to be classified as an organization exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Code.

Publication 557, Tax-Exempt Status for Your Organization, provides detailed information about your rights and responsibilities as an exempt organization. You may request a copy by calling the toll-free number for forms, (800) 829-3676. Information is also available on our Internet Web Site at www.irs.gov.

If you have general questions about exempt organizations, please call our toll-free number shown in the heading.

Please keep this letter in your permanent records.

Sincerely yours,



Robert Choi
Director, Exempt Organizations
Rulings and Agreements

Letter 1050 (DO/CG)